

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In accordance with embodiments of the present invention as claimed and described in the specification, a cover for a MEMS array is formed into a lens that adjusts the optical field of at least one movable mirror of the MEMS array. A “covering lens” therefore acts as both a cover and a lens for the MEMS array. The “covering lens” can be clearly distinguished from prior art embodiments, which typically utilize a covered MEMS array and one or more external lenses to adjust the optical field of the MEMS array.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 7-9, and 16 on grounds that the lens arrays 510/520 in FIG. 5 of the present application and the lenses 107/117 (or, perhaps, lenses 109/117) in the Neilson reference are covering lenses because they are disposed over the mirrors due to their positioning in the incoming/outgoing light paths. It is clear, however, that neither lens arrays 510/520 nor lenses 107/117 are “covering lenses” for purposes of the present invention because they do not act as covers for their respective MEMS arrays and in fact are not even part of the MEMS arrays but are instead external lenses used to direct optical signals to and from the MEMS arrays.

Claims 1, 7-9, and 16 have been amended to clarify that the covering lens covers as well as adjusts the optical field of at least one mirror of the MEMS array. These amendments were not made to avoid the prior art nor for any other reason of patentability.

All pending claims are believed to be in a form suitable for allowance. Therefore, the application is believed to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant respectfully requests early allowance of the application. The Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned, Jeffrey T. Klayman, if it will assist further examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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